

Revised Issue Statements -- Issues List with Resource Goals Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)

RECREATION

ISSUE STATEMENT R1. Adequacy of existing project recreation facilities, opportunities, and access to accommodate current use and future demand. (Issues addressed: 1, 2, 5-39, 41, 52, 53, 55-62, 64-85, 95, 96, 98, 104, 105)

RESOURCE GOALS:

1. Compliance of the Oroville facilities with the existing FERC license.
2. Compliance of Oroville facilities with FERC regulations as they relate to recreation development.
3. Compliance of the Oroville facilities with existing regulations, including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.
4. Develop a complete inventory of recreation resources at the Oroville facilities.
5. Review the current condition and adequacy of recreation facilities in the Project area, identifying maintenance issues as well as opportunities and constraints for new facility development.
6. Assess the range of recreation opportunities that are currently provided in the Project area and identify recreation opportunity areas needing development (mentioned in comments: private business, primitive camping, boat in/shoreline camping, whitewater boating, houseboat moorage, opening forks of Lake Oroville, model airplane flying, swimming and beach use, fishing, gold dredging, hang-gliding, kite flying, hiking, trail biking, trail systems, and equestrian use).
7. Review regional and local transportation access to the Project and identify adequacy of existing roads to provide access to Project recreation areas as well as road maintenance needs.
8. Assess the potential for developing public event venues at the Project (for events such as bass tournaments, water ski and powerboat competitions).
9. Review visitor orientation information and facilities in the Project area, including educational opportunities such as boating safety, environmental interpretation, and area history.
10. Consider the impact of recreational activities and facilities on the natural environment.
11. Obtain input from diverse user groups, including existing and potential users, and locals and non-locals.
12. Recognize the appropriate level of access and facilities to match any sub-planning areas of the Project.
13. Consider the maximum level of recreation development and use that provides high quality recreation opportunities on the Project, while protecting the environment and being consistent with Project operations.
14. Assess opportunities to provide improved swimming locations/facilities in the Project area.
15. Develop an understanding of recreation use patterns at the Project.
16. Consider both local and regional recreation demand, and the role of Project-related recreation in the surrounding area.

ISSUE STATEMENT R2. Adequacy of public safety at the Oroville Project recreation facilities. (Issues addressed: 49, 92, 93)

RESOURCE GOALS:

1. Public safety must be a top priority at all times. Safety procedures should be periodically reviewed to reflect changing uses of Project reservoirs and lands.
2. Evaluate existing Project information and safety signage for accuracy and maintenance needs, as well as information needs which are not currently being met.
3. Compliance of the Oroville facilities with existing safety regulations in both ADA and FERC guidelines.

ISSUE STATEMENT R3. Effects of facilities operations on recreation and socioeconomic opportunities.

RESOURCE GOALS:

1. Obtain recreation user input to determine the effects of Project operations on recreation use of the Project area (including fluctuations in reservoir pool levels, water temperature, floating debris, etc.).
2. Study effects of Project operations on fishing and hunting on Project lands.
3. Emphasis should be on the effects of seasonal reservoir drawdowns on recreation use.

ISSUE STATEMENT R4. Adequacy of maintenance and clean-up activities associated with recreation areas. (Issues addressed: 87)

RESOURCE GOAL:

1. Debris collection efforts should be handled on a regularly scheduled basis.

ISSUE STATEMENT R5. Appropriate recreation management structure and funding. (Issues addressed: 3, 4, 110-113, 115)

RESOURCE GOALS:

1. Identify recreation planning and coordination opportunities across management boundaries by encouraging land management agencies and their managers to integrate management and planning, especially with regard to post-licensing recreation measures.
2. Review existing plans, policies, and regulations associated with the various land management entities in the Project area to identify opportunities for coordination and cooperation.
3. Where applicable, management efforts should be in compliance with the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the National Trails Act.
4. Evaluate and identify reliable funding sources for recreation development, operation, and maintenance.
5. Encourage public-private partnerships in the development of companion recreation facilities.

ISSUE STATEMENT R6. Appropriate management of fisheries and wildlife resources to provide recreational opportunities. (Issues addressed: 42, 43, 45-48, 63, 84, 107-109, 114)

RESOURCE GOALS:

1. Assess the range of hunting and fishing opportunities that are currently provided in the Project area and identify opportunities that are not provided.
2. Review management efforts being conducted for long-term maintenance and enhancement of fisheries and riparian habitat communities.

SOCIOECONOMICS

ISSUE STATEMENT S1: Improve economic development through recreation-opportunities at the Oroville Facilities.

RESOURCE GOALS:

1. Conduct economic analyses to understand growth potential for recreation-related use in the Project area.
2. Evaluate potential for private enterprise and public-private partnerships to complement existing and proposed recreation enhancements.

ISSUE STATEMENT S2: Assess the feasibility of economic development through lower local utility rates.

RESOURCE GOALS:

1. Review managerial, legal, cost, and operational aspects of the Project to determine if the provision of lower utility rates on the local level is possible.